

Message Text

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64
ACTION EUR-12

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SUBJECT: DEPSECDEF VISIT TO BRUSSELS

REF: A. USNATO 3233
B. USCINCEUR 131233Z JUN 75 NOTAL
C. SECDEF 291524Z MAY 75
D. TELECON MR. LEVINE, SPEC ASST ASD PAA-MR. HAMILTON, USNATO

WE DO NOT EXPECT THE PRESS TO BE PRESENT AT ARRIVAL OF DEPSECDEF
IN BRUSSELS. IN VIEW OF THE BRIEF DEPSECDEF VISIT PROGRAM,
WE DO NOT RECOMMEND AN ARRIVAL STATEMENT OR A PRESS CON-
FERENCE IN BRUSSELS. IN THE EVENT MEMBERS OF THE PRESS DESIRE
TO MEET WITH DEPSECDEF CLEMENTS HOWEVER, A LIST OF PERTINENT QUESTIONS

WITH PROPOSED RESPONSES FOLLOWS:
PURPOSE OF VISIT TO BRUSSELS

MR.SECRETARY, WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR VISIT TO BRUSSELS?
I AM VISITING BRUSSELS IN CONJUNCTION WITH A VISIT TO US
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FACILITIES, INSTALLATIONS, AND OPERATING LOCATIONS IN EUROPE.
MY STOP IN BRUSSELS WILL PROVIDE ME WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO
EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH US AND NATO OFFICIALS ON IMPORTANT
ALLIANCE ISSUES. YOU ARE AWARE OF MANY OF THEM.

F-16

NEWS MEDIA IN CANADA HAVE MENTIONED THE POSSIBILITY OF CANADA'S PURCHASING THE F-16 AS REPLACEMENT FOR ITS FIGHTER AIRCRAFT. MR. SECRETARY, CAN YOU CONFIRM WHETHER CANADA HAS CONTACTED THE US ABOUT PARTICIPATING IN THE "AIR-

CRAFT SALE OF THE CENTURY" AS A MEANS TO MODERNIZE THEIR FIGHTER FORCE?

I HAVE SEEN PRESS REPORTS INDICATING THAT THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT IS STUDYING WHETHER FINANCIAL SAVINGS CAN BE GAINED BY JOINING OTHER COUNTRIES IN BUYING A US FIGHTER AIRCRAFT AND WHETHER THE F-16 IS DUITABLE REPLACEMENT FOR ITS FIGHTER AIRCRAFT. I DO NOT BELIEVE THE CANADIANS HAVE MADE ANY SPECIFIC PROPOSAL TO THE US CONCERNING THE F-16.

AWACS

DURING THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE MINISTERIAL MEETING IN MAY 1975, MINISTERS ENDORSED A PROPOSAL TO STUDY JOINTLY POSSIBILITIES FOR ACQUIRING AND OPERATING A NATO AIRBORNE WARNING AND CONTROL SYSTEM. WHAT IS THE PRIMARY PURPOSE OF AWACS AND HOW DOES THIS SYSTEM IMPROVE NATO'S CAPABILITY TO DEFEND ITSELF?

THE AWACS IS PRIMARILY AN AIR DEFENSE WARNING AND CONTROL WEAPONS SYSTEM. IT WILL SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE NATO'S CAPABILITY TO DETECT AND IDENTIFY HOSTILE AND FRIENDLY FORCES IN AN AREA OF OPERATIONS IN ADDITION IT WILL PROVIDE TIMELY INFORMATION TO COMMANDERS FOR COMMAND AND CONTROL DECISIONS. AWACS ALSO HAS A GOOD CAPABILITY TO SUPPORT OFFENSIVE MISSIONS. IT CAN LOOK DEEP INTO ENEMY TERRITORY AND DETECT POTENTIAL AIR ATTACKS AS ENEMY AIRCRAFT ARE FORMING FOR AN ATTACK FROM FORWARD BASES. AT THE SAME TIME AWACS CAN CONTROL OUR OWN INTERDICTION MISSIONS WELL INTO ENEMY TERRITORY. SURVEILLANCE, EARLY WARNING, AND AIR DEFENSE ARE PRIMARY MISSIONS OF AWACS. THE SECONDARY MISSION IS TO HELICOPTER CONTROL OFFENSIVE STRIKES DEEP INTO ENEMY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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TERRITORY.

SPAIN

DURING SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S VISIT TO BRUSSELS IN MAY, HE BRIEFED HIS COLLEAGUES ON THE PROGRESS OF BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR US BASES IN SPAIN, STRESSING THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO NATO SECURITY. DO YOU EXPECT TO DISCUSS THE SPANISH BASE ISSUE DURING YOUR VISIT TO BRUSSELS:

I DO NOT PLAN TO DISCUSS THE CONTRIBUTION OF US BASES IN SPAIN TO NATO SECURITY, HOWEVER,

THESE BASES PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR TANKERS FOR SAC AIRCRAFT; AN F-4 WING; SSGN'S AT ROTA AND TRAINING AREAS - ALL OF WHICH OBVIOUSLY CONTRIBUTES TO THE COLLECTIVE SECURITY OF THE WEST.

STANDARDIZATION

NATO HAS BEEN WORKING TOWARD GREATER STANDARDIZATION FOR YEARS. WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE MAJOR BARRIERS TO PROGRESS AND WHAT IS NATO DOING CURRENTLY TO IMPROVE STANDARDIZATION? SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEM OF STANDARDIZATION AFFECT EVERY MEMBER OF THE ALLIANCE. SHORT TERM SOLUTIONS COULD STRONGLY AFFECT ON THE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STRUCTURE OF MEMBER NATIONS. ALL ALLIED GOVERNMENTS WILL NEED TO MAKE SOME HARD POLITICAL CHOICES ABOUT THE AMOUNT OF PROTECTION THEY WISH TO GIVE THEIR INDUSTRIES AND THE AMOUNT OF TECHNOLOGY THEY WISH TO SHARE WITH OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE. THE MILITARY AUTHORITIES MUST ALSO MAKE THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS BY ARTICULATING OPERATIONAL CONCEPTS THAT SHOULD GUIDE WEAPONS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. FOR OUR PART, THE US IS GIVING A HIGH PRIORITY TO MEASURES NECESSARY TO IMPROVE WEAPONS STANDARDIZATION IN NATO. AS TO THE SECOND PART OF THE QUESTION, THERE ARE A NUMBER OF MEASURES BEING TAKEN IN THE AREAS OF WEAPONS, TACTICS, COMMAND AND CONTROL. SOME EXAMPLES OF INITIATIVES ARE: THE F-16, AWACS, RIFLE AMMO, AND THE MAIN BATTLE TANK.

TURKEY

IN YOUR JUDGMENT WILL THE US CONGRESS SUPPORT THE ADMIN-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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ISTRATION REQUEST TO REMOVE THE EMBARGO ON THE SALE OF ARMS TO TURKEY?
(WE BELIEVE THAT ANY RESPONSE WE MIGHT PROPOSE AT THIS TIME COULD BE OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS IN WASHINGTON, AND THUS WE DO NOT OFFER A PROPOSED ANSWER. THE QUESTION OF THE US EMBARGO IS ALMOST CERTAIN, HOWEVER, TO ARISE AT SOME TIME DURING THE DEPSECDEF VISIT TO EUROPE).
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